Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Walter Zabel was born on October 24, 1914, on a farm east of Selby, South Dakota, where he lived with his parents, one brother and one sister; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Walt married Lorine Miller on September 1, 1937, at Mobridge, South Dakota, and to that union three children were born, who in turn presented them with seven grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and one step-great-grandchild; and,

Whereas, Walt's working career started on the Ft. Peck, Montana, dam project, he then farmed until 1952, worked as an implement and automobile dealer until 1978, and served as a State Representative for the 20th Legislative District from 1978 – 1990; and,

Whereas, Walt's community involvement included the Selby City Council, director of the South Dakota Automobile Dealers for 9 years, Urban Representative Soil Conservation, 25 years as Walworth County Civil Defense director and assistant director, Hiddenwood Sportsmen Club, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Selby Methodist Church, and Selby Community Club; and,

Whereas, Walt has been the recipient of the 1975 State Historic Award, 1977 Selby JC Man of the Year Award, and 1996 KeloLand TV Jefferson Award; and,

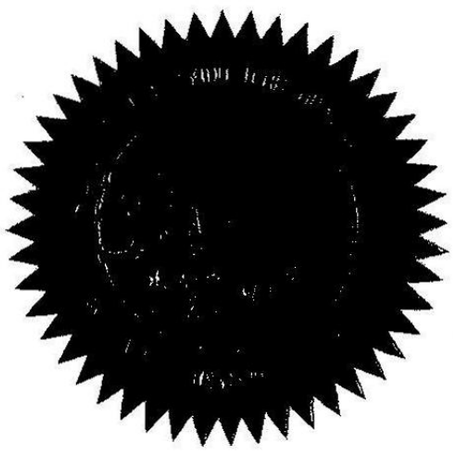
Whereas, Walt has also spent many hours restoring old Christmas decorations to beautify Selby's main street and surrounding highways, worked diligently to place the Selby Opera House on the historic site list, built permanent bridges for May Acres Golf Course, and wrote the "Walt Sez" column for the *Selby Record* and *Java Herald* for 20 years; and,

Whereas, Walt will observe his 90th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2004, as

WALT ZABEL DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State